

Oseltamivir (Tamiflu®)

Influenza Treatment vs. Chemoprophylaxis in Long Term Care Facilities

	Treatment	Chemoprophylaxis
Dosage	75 mg <i>twice</i> daily	75 mg <i>once</i> daily
Recommended Duration	5 days* *longer treatment course for patients who remain severely ill after 5 days of treatment can be considered	Minimum of 2 weeks and continuing for 1 week after the last onset of illness

Treatment

- Early antiviral treatment can shorten the duration of illness, prevent hospitalizations, and may reduce the risk of complications from influenza (i.e. pneumonia, respiratory failure, death)
- Antiviral treatment should be started as soon as possible after illness onset, ideally within 48 hours of symptom onset
- **Decisions about starting antiviral treatment should not wait for laboratory confirmation of influenza**

Chemoprophylaxis

- Approximately 70-90% effective in preventing influenza and is a useful tool in combination with influenza vaccination
- Recommended for all exposed, non-ill (including those who received influenza vaccine) residents, and unvaccinated health care personnel when confirmed case of influenza occurs in the facility
 - May be recommended by Public Health even in the absence of confirmatory testing if more than 1 resident is presenting with acute febrile respiratory illness during a 1 week time span during influenza season. Contact Public Health—Seattle and King County for recommendations: 206-296-4774
- Vaccinated staff can be administered prophylaxis within 2 weeks of influenza vaccination

Source:

<http://www.cdc.gov/flu/professionals/antivirals/summary-clinicians.htm>

http://www.idsociety.org/uploadedFiles/IDSA/Guidelines-Patient_Care/PDF_Library/Infuenza.pdf